been essentially due to the steep increase in raw-cotton prices. However, hank yarn of counts upto 60s which is the main raw-material used in the handloom sector is not permitted to be exported. Regarding creation of a stabilisation fund of Rs. 100 crores to stabilise the prices of hank yarn it may be stated that the National Handloom Development Corporation (NHDC) is provided with assistance by way of share capital for enabling it to supply yarn to handloom weavers. The NHDC procures and distributes yarn on receipt of specific indents and is not engaged in storage of yarn. The scheme for setting up of Handloom Development Centres has targeted, *inter alia*, to enhance the capital base of the primaries so that they are able to procure larger quantities of yarn and thus give more employment to handloom weavers. In view of these reasons, Government does not propose to create a stabilisation fund of Rs. 100 crores.

Government of India has already issued directives to the spinning mills in the State and Cooperative Sector including NTC to fulfil the Statutory Hank Yarn Obligation.

Office of the Textiles Commissioner has been instructed to lodge FIRs against the mills who are defaulting the Hank Yarn Obligation Order.

Representations for suspension of Cotton Exports

3862. SHRI PRAGADA KOTAIAH : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether representations from handloom weavers have been received to suspend exports of cotton yarn of all counts till the prices go down to the level of November-December, 1993 to help handloom industry which has been hit hard by sky-rocketing prices of yarn used by handlooms;

(b) what were the quantities of cotton yarn exported during 1993;

(c) what were the quantities of cotton yarn exported by all categories of exporters from 1st January, 1994 to 31st March, 1994; and

(d) whether cotton yarn is covered by the Essential Commodities Act, if so, what are the steps taken or proposed to be taken to procure and distribute yarn to handloom weavers in cooperative and corporate bodies and also those in the private sector at reasonable rates.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) There have been representations from handloom and powerloom weavers Associations requesting for suspension of cotton yarn exports with a view to bring down their prices.

(b) and (c) The quantity of cotton yarn exported during 1993 and the period January-March, 1994 is given below :

(Provisional)
(Quantity in Million Kgs.)

	1993	January-March 94
Under Ceiling . .	108·34	36·80
Under Advance Licensing Scheme . . .	23·23	6·32
By 100% EOUs . .	34·37	12·82
	165·94	49·94

(d) Cotton yarn is included in the list of Essential Commodities. With a view to ensure adequate production of hank yarn used in the handloom sector, Government has issued Hank Yarn Packing Notification under the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act requiring each producer of yarn to pack atleast 50% of their marketable yarn in hank form. In addition, Government of India has taken the following measures to make available adequate quantity of hank yarn to handloom weavers at reasonable prices :—

(i) loan assistance for setting up of Weavers Cooperative Spinning Mills for increasing the availability of hank yarn in the handloom sector;

(ii) constitution of State Level Yarn Price Fixation Committees for regulating the prices of yarn produced in the cooperative and state sector mills for supply to handloom weavers;

(iii) National Handloom Development Corporation has been set up with

the objective of supplying raw-material to the handloom agencies; and

(iv) exemption from excise duty on plain reel hank yarn.

12.00 Noon

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Madam, I want to raise an issue... *(Interruptions)*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let me first allow the Papers to be laid on the Table of the House ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: The Minister of Commerce was to make a statement.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He is here. Let the Papers be laid on the Table. *(Interruptions)* I will permit you.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Report and Accounts (1991-92) of the Centre for Development of the Telemtics, New Delhi and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): Madam, I lay on the Table a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

(i) Annual Report and Accounts of the Centre for Development of Telematics, New Delhi, for the year 1991-92, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts.

(ii) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 5655/94]

Report and Accounts (1992-93) of the Press Council of India, New Delhi and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): Madam, I lay on the Table a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under section 20 of the Press Council Act, 1978:—

(i) Fourteenth Annual Report and Accounts of the Press Council of India, New Delhi for the year 1992-93, together with the Audit Report on the Accounts.

(ii) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the paper mentioned above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 5657/94]

Report of the Single Member Commission of Inquiry regarding the incident of firing in Andrott

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): Madam, I lay on the Table a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

(i) Report of the Single Member Commission of Inquiry dated the 21st July, 1993, by Justice George Vadakkel, Retired Judge, Kerala High Court on the incident of firing in Andrott (Lakshadweep) on the 23rd April, 1990, together with the Memorandum of Action taken Note on the Report.

(ii) Memorandum explaining reasons for the delay in laying the above Report.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 5686/94]

Reports of the Committee on Home Affairs

SHRI R. K. DHAWAN: Madam, I present the Ninth, Tenth and Eleventh Reports (in English and Hindi) of the Committee on Home Affairs on the Demands for Grants (1994-95) of the Ministries of Home Affairs, Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions and Law, Justice & Company Affairs, respectively.

Reports of the Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport and Tourism

श्री प्रमोद महाजन : महोदया, मैं यान हरण निवारण (संशोधन) विधेयक, 1993 और सिविल विमानन सुरक्षा विधि-विरूद्ध कार्य दमन (संशोधन) विधेयक, 1993 के संबंध में विभाग संबंधित परिवहन और पर्यटन संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी समिति का क्रमशः छठा और सातवां प्रतिवेदन (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) प्रस्तुत करता हूँ ।